

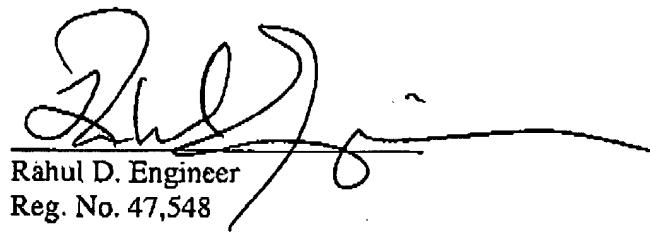
REMARKS

Claims 1-55 stand rejected under 35 USC § 102(b) as being unpatentable over US Pat. No. 5,899,957 (hereafter Loomis). Applicant has canceled claims 2, 29, and 44-55 and has amended claims 1, 3-5, 7, 18-21, 30-32, and 36. In view of the amendments and arguments set forth below, Applicant respectfully submits that all remaining claims are in condition for allowance.

According to MPEP 706.02, "for anticipation under 35 USC 102, the reference must teach every aspect of the claimed invention either explicitly or impliedly. Any feature not directly taught must be inherently present." Applicant respectfully submits that in the present application, Loomis does not expressly or impliedly teach all of the elements recited in the pending claims. For instance, Loomis does not expressly or impliedly teach the "station selection module" limitation of claim 1 as amended. Likewise, Loomis does not expressly or impliedly teach the "integrity monitoring module" limitation of claim 21 as amended. Based on the foregoing, Applicant respectfully submits that all claims are now in condition for allowance.

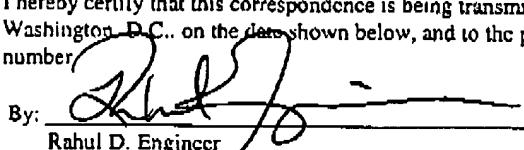
If the Examiner requires further information, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner call the undersigned at his earliest convenience to discuss the allowability of the claims. The undersigned can be reached at 512-732-3919. Applicant requests that the fee for a one month extension of time, as well as any other deficiency in fees, be charged to our Deposit Acct. No. 02-2666.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Date: August 4, 2004  
Rahul D. Engineer  
Reg. No. 47,548

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION VIA FACSIMILE

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted, via facsimile, to the Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D.C., on the date shown below, and to the proper U.S. Patent and Trademark Office facsimile telephone number.

By:   
Rahul D. Engineer

Date: August 4, 2004